MARVEL LEGACY

HOME OF THE BRAVE

697

CAPTAIN AMERICA®

MARK WAID
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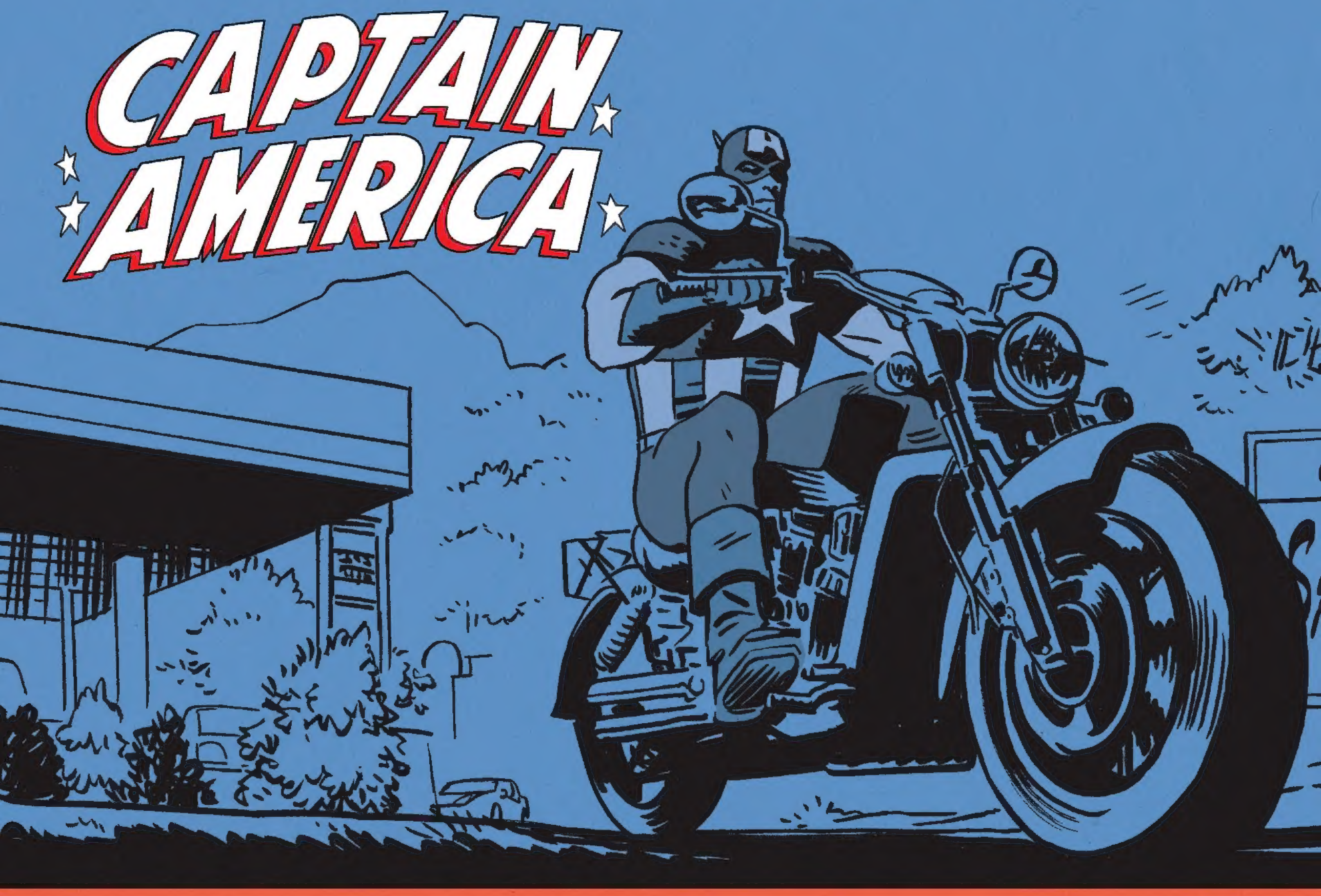
MATTHEW WILSON

CAPTAIN
AMERIC
1922-20

SAMNEE '17
MW

WHERE IS WOLVERINE?

1940! As the world teetered on the brink of global war, frail Steve Rogers entered a secret laboratory and was transformed into the American Super-Soldier! For five thrilling years, he fought the Axis powers--until a freak stroke of fate threw him into suspended animation. When he awoke, he was a man decades out of his time! Since that fateful day, Steve Rogers has sought his destiny in this brave new world!



An evil version of Captain America led the world to the brink of destruction. The original Captain America returned in time to stop him, but the dark legacy of the Secret Empire lingers on--a truth felt by no one more than Steve Rogers himself. Can Steve find his place in a world that has been made to fear Captain America?

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ALL RIGHT, STRANGER...

...GOTTA MAKE EVERY LAST SHOT TO WIN.

IMPRESS ME, COWBOY.

KRAK!

OH, MY. YOU CERTAINLY KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR STICK.

WHAT DO THEY CALL YOU, COWBOY?

STEVE. WHAT DO THEY CALL YOU?

BAIT.

FWUMP

GOOD AFTERNOON, MR. ROGERS.

SLEEP WELL?

NNNGHH!

THE COLLAR KEEPS YOU AT A SAFE DISTANCE.

I PRIDE MYSELF ON PREPARATION.

YOU'RE KRAVEN THE HUNTER. SPIDER-MAN HAS MENTIONED YOU.

THEN HE'S SURELY TOLD YOU THAT MY ONLY TRUE PASSION IS THE PURSUIT OF DANGEROUS GAME.

YOU ARE THE WORLD'S MOST PERFECT PHYSICAL SPECIMEN. THEREFORE, YOU REPRESENT THE ULTIMATE CHALLENGE.

IN A MOMENT, I WILL BE PURSUING YOU THROUGH THE JUNGLE BELOW.

IF YOU MAKE IT TO THE COAST, YOU WILL REGAIN YOUR SHIELD AND YOUR FREEDOM.

CUT IT.

WE KNOW HOW THIS PLAYS OUT, KRAVEN. I'M NOT INTERESTED IN YOUR GAMES.

YOU'VE ALREADY LOST.

IN ORDER TO BE PREY, AN ANIMAL HAS TO KNOW FEAR...AND I AM IN NO WAY AFRAID OF YOU.

WOULD THAT EVERY MAN HAD YOUR COURAGE.

KLIK

--HELP ME! OH, GOD, SOMEBODY HELP ME!

WHOEVER YOU ARE, PLEASE! DON'T DO THIS! I DON'T WANT TO DIE!

WHO IS THAT?

DOES IT MATTER?

...OH, GOD...

PUNJI TRAP. IF YOU'D STEPPED ON THAT CAMOUFLAGE, YOU'D HAVE DIED ON BAMBOO SPIKES.

WHAT'S YOUR NAME, SIR?

D-DAVID. DAVID CUH-COTTER.

I'M A *STUDENT.* VIRGINIA TECH. I WAS B-BACKPACKING ACROSS *EUROPE.* I W-WENT TO *SLEEP,* AND YOU'RE *CAPTAIN AMERICA* AND... AND...

WHERE *AM* I?

WITH SOMEONE WHO LEARNED TO NAVIGATE A BOOBY-TRAPPED JUNGLE BEFORE YOUR GRAND-FATHER WAS BORN.

LESSON ONE: TRY NOT TO LEAVE A *BLOOD SPOOR.*

AROOOOo

A WOLFHOUND CAN SMELL IT FROM SEVEN MILES OUT.

LET'S GET YOU TO SAFETY SO I'M FREE TO *FIGHT--*

KRAK

I NEED YOU TO LISTEN TO EVERYTHING I SAY AND **FOLLOW MY INSTRUCTIONS** TO THE **LETTER.** UNDERSTOOD?

YESSIR.

THE TRAIL HAS **NARROWED.** NEVER GOOD. CHANCES ARE, WE'RE BEING STEERED TOWARD SOMETHING.

AH. CLEVER.

SWAK

THOSE SNAKES WERE FOR YOU, NOT ME. KRAVEN KNEW I'D SEE THEM.

HE'S FAR MORE CREATIVE THAN THAT.

WALK TWO STEPS BACK, BUT WALK **IN MY FOOTPRINTS.** LET **ME** FIND ANY **MINES** OR **TRIPWIRES.** DO NOT **DEVIATE.**

HOW ARE YOU AT ROCK CLIMBING?

NOT GREAT.

THEN GIVE ME A SECOND TO FIGURE OUT WHICH ONES OF THESE CAN HOLD OUR WEIGHT.

THIS ONE SEEM PRETTY SECURE.

NO! DON'T--

chok

KRAK

I'M SORRY! I'M SO SORRY! ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?

BEGINNING TO FEEL DEHYDRATED.

CLIMBING'S OUT. WE'LL HAVE TO GO AROUND--

HANG ON, THIS JUST GOT CHALLENGING.

"JUST"?

SHOULD WE TRY SWINGING THROUGH THE TREES ON VINES?

TARZAN IS FICTION.

DO PRECISELY AS I DO.

chk

DON'T DAWDLE.

I CAN HEAR THE *OCEAN* UP AHEAD!

MY GOD, WE'RE GONNA *MAKE* IT!

TOO EASY. STAND BACK.

CHOOM

STAY ON THE *PATH.* KRAVEN'S RIGHT BEHIND US, I'M SURE OF IT.

CAP?

I... I HEARD SOMETHING CLICK...

OH, GOD.

OH, DEAR GOD.

AM I GONNA...AM I GONNA *DIE...?*

NOT IF YOU STAY *STOCK-STILL.* DON'T EVEN *TWITCH.*

IF IT DIDN'T BLOW *IMMEDIATELY,* THAT MEANS IT'S A *PRESSURE MINE.*

I KNOW HOW TO *DEFUSE* IT IF I CAN JUST DIG *AROUND* IT.

TRY TO BREATHE. TRY TO *RELAX.* CLOSE YOUR EYES AND CONCENTRATE ON THE SOUND OF THE *OCEAN.*

THE FEEL OF THE *BREEZE.*

KRKK

THE SMELL OF GUN OIL.

SWAK

I'VE BEEN WONDERING SINCE THE ROCKSLIDE WHEN YOU WERE GOING TO MAKE YOUR MOVE SO I COULD DRAW KRAVEN OUT.

EVERYTHING ELSE WE CAME ACROSS WAS A FEINT. YOU WERE THE REAL TRAP ALL ALONG.

CLAP CLAP CLAP

WELL PLAYED, CAPTAIN.

NO OTHER MAN I'VE EVER MET WOULD STILL BE ALIVE RIGHT NOW.

I'M GENUINELY DISAPPOINTED THAT OUR CONTEST HAS REACHED ITS END.

I DON'T SUPPOSE YOU'LL HONOR THE TERMS OF *VICTORY.*

YOU *INSULT* ME.

KRAVEN THE HUNTER IS A MAN OF HIS *WORD.*

THE SHIELD I MOST CERTAINLY *WILL* RETURN TO YOU--

chak

--RIGHT AFTER YOU HAVE ENJOYED THE *FREEDOM* OF *BLISSFUL UNCONSCIOUSNESS.*

BANG

CLUMSY *FOOL--!*

THE CONTRACT CALLED FOR HIM TO BE DELIVERED *ALIVE!*

HOLD... ON...!

rhap

KRAVEN!

YOU... WANT...TO LIVE...?

TURN... OFF...THE COLLAR!

DO IT!

I'M ABOUT... FIVE SECONDS AWAY...FROM BLACKING OUT...

...AND WE'LL BOTH FALL! HELP ME!

NEVER.

WHAT NOW--?

KRAVEN FAILED US.

THAT'S ALL RIGHT.

WE CAN IMPROVISE.

NO!

STOP!
NOT THIS!

NOT--

A
NEXT: MAN OUT OF TIME

CAP'S CORNER

WHAT DOES CAPTAIN AMERICA MEAN TO YOU?

What does Captain America mean to me?

Cap is a character we can all look up to. Someone that we can strive toward. Someone that represents not just the best of American ideals but the best in us as people. His never-say-die attitude in the face of any challenge--and his humility, while being arguably the best of the best of the super hero breed--have kept me reading his comic adventures since my childhood, sustained me through two cracks at drawing the title and will keep me hitting the comic shop to see what he's up to for years to come.

Oh, and the outfit looks pretty neat. :)

-Chris Samnee

I have to say: Wow, what a way to start a run. Cap has been one of my favorite heroes for a long time now, and I feel like as I grow older, I love him more. Even though he has "America" in his name, what he stands for is universal to me. He inspires the best in us all, and sees the best in each of us. So much so that even as someone who grew up on the other side of the world, Cap is someone I aspire to be like. Cap sees the world, and people, for what it can be, and that makes us strive toward that ideal, which is such a beautiful sentiment. If we aspire to be someone whom Captain America can be proud of, never giving up and caring for one another, the world will truly be a better place. Thank you for very succinctly demonstrating all this (possibly unintelligible) babble in one issue in CAPTAIN AMERICA #695!

-Amanda Lee, from Singapore

Growing up, I always thought Captain America was kind of boring. I mean, what kid wouldn't? He wasn't the God of Thunder or a wise-cracking Wall-Crawler--he was just a guy with a shield. As I got older and the world got scarier and harder to deal with, I realized how wrong I was.

Cap wasn't boring, he was steadfast--he didn't let the darkness of the world change him. No matter how bleak things got or how inevitable defeat seemed, Cap never lost sight of hope. That's when Cap changed for me. He became an anchor in the storm, a beacon of hope, a symbol to never compromise who you are. Regardless of who wears the stripes and carries the shield, that's what Captain America means to me.

-Ronald Caterisano

NEXT:

CAPTAIN AMERICA #698

OUT OF TIME!

What does Cap mean to you? Send us emails at **MHEROES@MARVEL.COM** and mark them "**Okay to Print,**" or tweet us using the hashtags **#CapLegacy** and **#OKtoprint** for a chance to see your marvelous missives in future issues!

HEY, BUB...

HOPIN' TO CATCH UP WITH A FRIEND OF MINE. TALL, BEEFY BLOND GUY. YOU SEEN 'IM AROUND?

SORRY, FRIEND...

...CAN'T SAY AS I HAVE. NOBODY LIKE THAT CAME IN TODAY.

NO GREAT SURPRISE THERE. ROGERS IS ALWAYS GETTIN' HIMSELF WAYLAID.

I'LL JUST HAFTA MEET UP WITH HIM SOME OTHER TIME.

ZONE